Message Text

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LIMDIS

FOR AMBASSADOR STABLER

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: NATO, SP

SUBJECT: DESIRE OF FOREIGN MINISTER OREJA TO MEET WITH

LUNS AND HAIG

REF; MADRID 5408

1. THE SITUATION WITH RESPECT TO CONTACTS BETWEEN FOREIGN MINISTER OREJA, SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS AND GENERAL HAIG IS SOMEWHAT CONFUSED. I HAVE HAD HAIG IN A HOLDING PATTERN FOR JULY 27 LUNCH UNTIL LATE THIS AFTERNOON WHEN I WAS ABLE TO SEE LUNS ON LATTER'S RETURN FROM VISIT TO ITALY. MEANWHILE, QUITE BY COINCIDENCE I TALKED WITH NUNO AGUIRRE THIS MORNING ON PREVIOUSLY ARRANGED COURTESY CALL TO RETURN HIS VISIT TO ME SHORTLY AFTER MY ARRIVAL.

2. WITHOUT ANY COMMENT FROM ME AT ALL, NUNO AGUIRRE LAUNCHED INTO PLANS FOR FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT, SAYING THAT HE HAD ARRANGED WITH LUNS FOR DINNER REPEAT DINNER EVENING SEPTEMBER 27 AND WANTED TO INVITE HAIG, ME AND "OTHER NATO FRIENDS". I GOT THE IMPRESSION HIS INVITATION LIST WOULD BE SELECTIVE RATHER THAN ALL-CONFIDENTIAL

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INCLUSIVE OF NATO COUNCIL. THIS COULD CAUSE PROBLEMS IN ITSELF, DEPENDING ON WHICH COLLEAGUES WERE LEFT OUT. AS IT SO HAPPENS, I MYSELF AM ALREADY ENGAGED THAT EVENING. NUNO AGUIRRE ALSO SUGGESTED POSSIBILITY OF FOREIGN MINISTER HAVING A TALK WITH LUNS ON MORNING JULY 28.

- 3. WHEN I SAW LUNS THIS AFTERNOON, HE HAD IT QUITE ANOTHER WAY. HE SAID HE KNEW FOREIGN MINISTER WAS UNAVAILABLE FOR LUNCH ON JULY 27 SINCE OREJA WAS LUNCHING WITH ROY JENKINS THAT DAY AND WAS IN FACT DEVOTING WHOLE DAY TO EC. HE, LUNS, HAD ACCEPTED DINNER WITH SPANISH AMBASSADOR JULY 27 AND NO ONE HAD APPROACHED HIM ABOUT A MEETING ON JULY 28. (NAC HAS IMPORTANT MEETING THAT MORNING AND LUNS WOULD PRESUMABLY NOT BE AVAILABLE.) LUNS COMMENTED IT SEEMED TO HIM SPANISH WERE CONSCIOUSLY PLAYING DOWN NATO BY HANDLING CONTACT AT A SOCIAL DINNER.
- 4. IT WOULD SEEM TO ME THE SPAINARDS HAVE HAD TWO LINES RUNNING TO BRUSSELS AND HAVE SNARLED THEM. BENNETT

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